

You leave the sun behind as you lower yourself down into the unexplored caverns beneath the Peruvian jungle. Deeper and deeper you go. Past Amazon frogs, condors, and attacking bats. Across eel-infested underground rivers. From cavern to cavern, level to level. Swim-

ming running, dodging, stumbling, you search for the gold, the Raj diamond and the thing you really treasure...adventure. Head for it. Designed by David Crane



You have heard the elder speak of one central source and a maze of unconnected grey paths. As you connect each grey path to the central source, what was grey becomes the green of life. When all are connected, then you have achieved "Zenji". But betware the flames and sparks of distraction that move along the paths. You must go be oven distra-

egy, speed, logic. Trust your intuition. The ancient puzzle awaits. Designed



You strap on your helicopter prop-pack, check your laser helmet and dynamite. There's no predicting what you'll have to go through to get to the trapped miners. Blocked shafts, make the law, and the law of the



As you suit up you see the webbed forcefield surrounding your planet. Holding it. Trapped with no escape. No hope. Except you. The Beamfact. The freedom of more planet. Holding its grid of beams that strangle your planet. You must destroy the grid sector by sector. You resides alone will determine the future of your people. Take their



You can almost hear the quiet. And it's your job to keep it that way. A toy factory at midnight. Did you hear something? Guess not. Wrong! Suddenly balloon valves open. conveyor belts move and a whole factory full of toys goes wild. Even the robot, their latest development, so on the loose and after you. Capture the

runaway toys. Restore order. Restore peace. Restore quiet. Do something! Hurry! Designed



You made it. The Olympics You hear languages you've never heard. And the universal roar of the crowd. You will run. Huff. Youth Jump. Ten events. One chance. You will push yourself this time. Further than ever. Harder than ever. But then...so will everyone. The competition increases, now two can compete at the same time. The crowd quiets.

The starting gun sounds. A blur of adrenalin. Let the games begin.

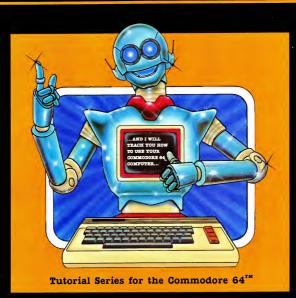




What if you were sitting in front of your Commodore 64" programming your own Pitfall Harry" adventure? It can happen with a little help from the creator of Pitfall Harry, Devid Carea, Just write your name and address on a piece of paper, tope 25 to 16 for posting and handling and mail to The Arthston C4 OLLO, PO. Box 7287, Mountain View, CA 94039. Well send you Devid's Booklet, "Programming Pitfall Harry" It includes a written program that helps you create your own adventure. Of 6 not



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Get the most out of your Commodore 64 with the I AM THE C-64 tutorial series from Creative Software. Each practical operation you can perform is explained in simple terms right on the screen.

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Bart the Bee will demystify the programming process and teach your kids basic concepts without complex computer language. The player controls Bart by giving him instructions on how to move from flower to flower, picking up "pollen points." Bart's flight pattern must be carefully designed to avoid bumping into walls or becoming an unfortunate meal for Olga the Spide or Phineas the Froq.

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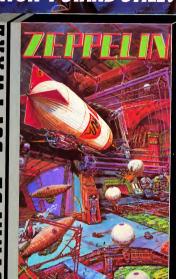
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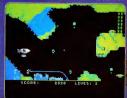
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CAN A COMPUTER MAKE YOU CRY?

Right now, no one knows. This is partly because many would consider the very idea frivolous. But it's also because whoever successfully answers this question must first have answered several others.

Why do we cry? Why do we laugh, or love, or smile? What are the touchstones of our emotions?

Until now, the people who asked such questions tended not to be the same people who ran software companies. Instead, they were writers, filmmakers, painters, musicians. They were, in the traditional sense, artists.

We're about to change that tradition. The name of our company is Electronic Arts.

SOFTWARE WORTHY OF THE MINDS THAT

USE IT. We are a new association of electronic artists united by a common goal — to fulfill the enormous potential of the personal computer.

In the short term, this means transcending its present use as a facilitator of unimaginative tasks and a medium for blasting aliens. In the long term, however, we can expect a great deal more.

These are wondrous machines we have created, and in them can be seen a bit of their makers. It is as if we had invested them with the image of our minds. And through them, we are learning more and more about ourselves.

We learn, for instance, that we are more entertained by the involvement of our imaginations than by passive viewing and listening. We learn that we are better taught by experience than by memorization. And we learn that the traditional

distinctions—the ones that are made between art and entertainment and education – don't always apply.

TOWARD A LANGUAGE OF DREAMS. In short, we are finding that the computer can be more than just a processor of data.

It is a communications medium: an interactive tool that can bring people's thoughts and feelings closer together, perhaps closer than ever before. And while fifty years from now, its creation may seem no more important than the advent of motion pictures or television, there is a chance it will mean something more.

Something along the lines of a universal language of ideas and emotions. Something like a smile. The first publications of Electronic Arts are now available. We suspect you'll be hearing a lot about them. Some of them are games like you've never seen before, that get more out of your computer than other games ever have. Others are harder to categorize – and we like that.

WATCH US. We're providing a special environment for talented. independent software artists. It's a supportive environment, in which big ideas are given room to grow. And some of America's most respected software artists are beginning to take notice.

We think our current work reflects. this very special commitment. And though we are few in number today and apart from the mainstream of the mass software marketplace, we are confident that both time and vision

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SOFTWARE ARTISTS? "I'm not so sure there are any software artists yet," says Bill Budge. "We've got to earn that title." Pictured here are a few people who have come as close to earning it as anyone we know.

That's Mr. Budge himself, creator of PINBALL CONSTRUCTION SET, at the upper right. To his left are Anne Westfall and Jon Freeman who, along with their colleagues at Free Fall Associates, created ARCHON and MURDER ON THE ZINDERNEUF.

Left of them is Dan Bunten of Ozark Softscape, the firm that wrote M.U.L.E. To Dan's left are Mike Abbot (top) and Matt Alexander (bottom), authors of HARD HAT MACK. In the center is John Field, creator of AXIS ASSASSIN and THE LAST GLAD-IATOR. David Maynard, lower right is the man responsible for WORMS?

When you see what they've accomplished, we think you'll agree with us that they can call themselves whatever they want

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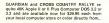
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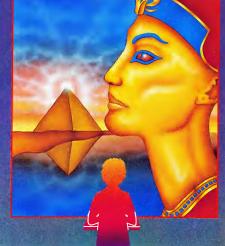
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"Unless there is one among you with the cunning, with strength and valor to reach me in my chambers in the heart of my pyramid. Just one "Hal Lumase moself with the thought. To imagine a mindless man being stung by my winged sepents and pet spiders, crashing through the dozens of trap doors. Tighting off the spirits of my palace guard! And to see what happens when he true to use his concentional weapons in the magnetic maze of my sarrophagus?

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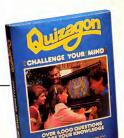
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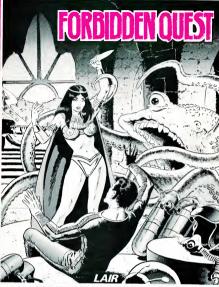
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smeared ink, grease stains, and other grimy marks. Since then, that title has been revoked. and all rights and privileges that go with it have been canceled. Sonia Kantor explains:

"Jason was kind of upset at first, because it wasn't all his fault. We would all work on the puzzle after dinner just about every night, and it was my husband who made most of the mess " Only after some school chums remarked to Iason that they had seen his name in Softalk did the former Slob of the Month realize it wasn't such a had deal after all

Lessons like this are always learned too late. and such is the case for Jason. The Slob of the Month for May has now been defaulted to his father, Robert

Winning a contest always involves a bit of talent, luck, and a little strategy. In the case of the Limerick contest, it involved a lot of strategy. See, just as in real-life stuff like political elections, there's always the matter of who should have won, who wanted badly to win, and who did win. Kantor did win, that much is certain. But how she did it is another story.

The voting looked more like the petitioning process for Dr. Demento's Top Ten than it did a civil democratic event. Votes came in for every limerick, but in the final analysis it wasn't a question of which limerick was the best written or the most popular, but rather who could round up the most people to send in a post card with a number written on it.

All but four of Kantor's votes came from her home-town area of Palo Alto, At first, the contest staff was stumped, "She sure has a lot of neighbors," remarked one vote counter "Fither that or she's holding a lot of Palo Altoans hostage," added another.

It was neither case.

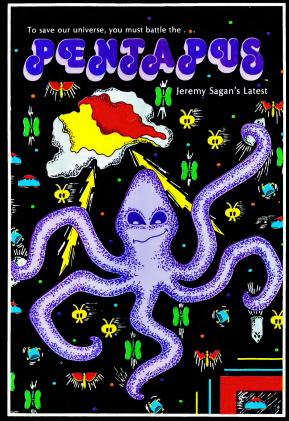
As Kantor tells it, all the votes came in from students of her English as a Second Language class. The limericks were given to the students (or so we were told), and they were to vote for limerick number four "if they wanted to pass the class." Well, that's one way to campaign for votes, and it doesn't seem too different from the way things work in Congress.

Congratulations are in order to Kantor for going beyond her job duties of teaching the English language and teaching the true American way as well. Hurrah.

For each devious action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. Sort of When it came time to draw from the pile of cards that voted for limerick number four in order to award the \$50 voters' prize, the card that emerged was one of the four that didn't come from Palo Alto. It was one of three that came from Milwaukee. Wisconsin. At least this winner wasn't one of Kantor's Kommandos. So we thought.

No. Ellen Lang (Milwaukee, WI) isn't one of Kantor's English students. She's a sister-inlaw. Nepotism, nepotism. Lang doesn't have an Apple, so she really had no use for \$50 in software. Instead, she's taking the cash and will "put it toward our trip to Europe." That ought to buy her enough airplane fare to get about six miles over the Atlantic.

Who Should Have Won. Apparently, the GOTO page 299



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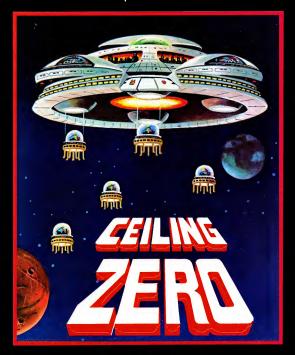
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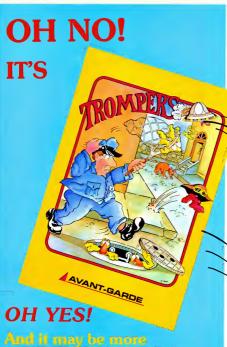


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left has expanded past the boundaries of its ad space. Further, the Trompers themselves are taking over this entire page! Is that fair? Well, is it? There could be a perfectly fine advertisement here for modems or RAM oards or dust covers--something sensible. But. NO! Instead, there proliferation of intergalactic chamacallits bouncing all over ace-here and in stores all acros States. They're taking over! okay, so what if it's a great game? Who cards if it's lots of fun? That's parely the point is it? We dont' care if young point and adults don't, don't,

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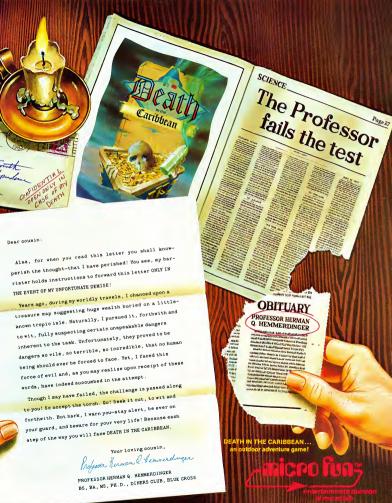
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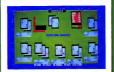
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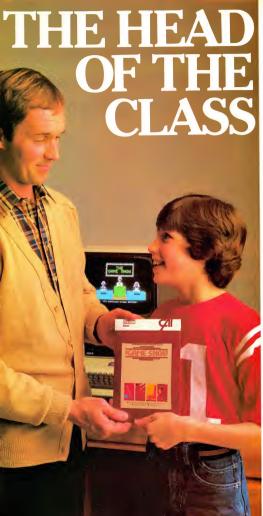
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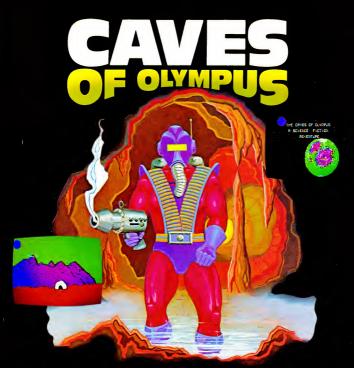


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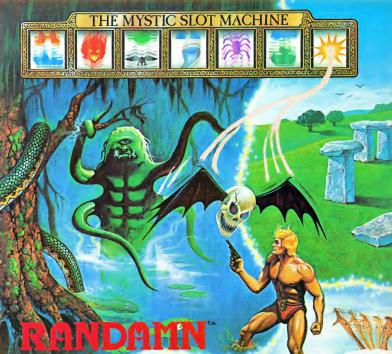
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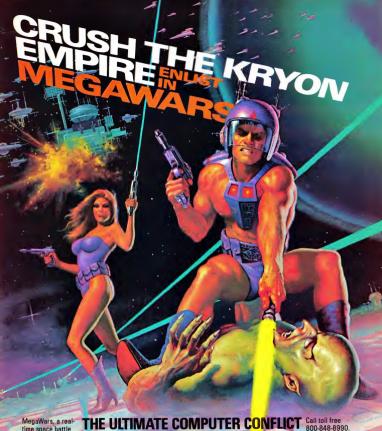


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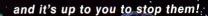
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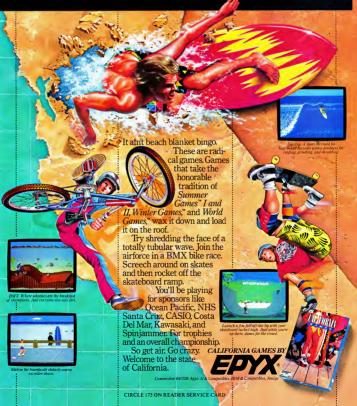
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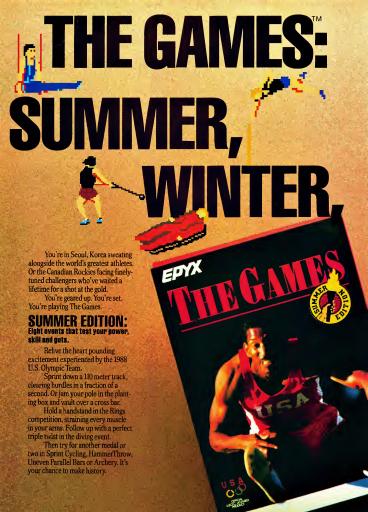
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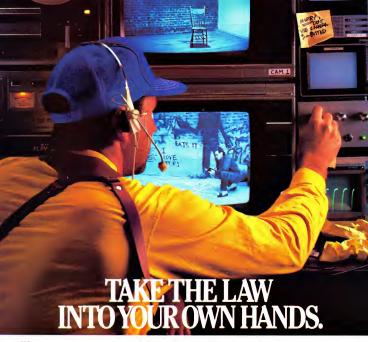
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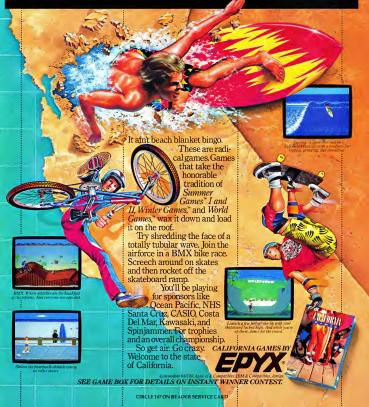
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BY EPYX

Atari ST, Apple II & compatibles, Amiga





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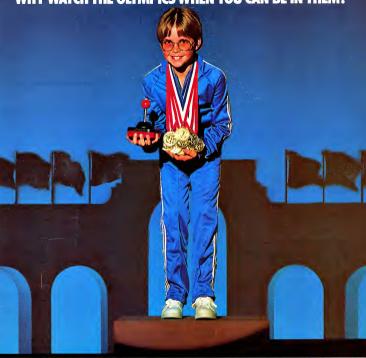
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hen the Bard's Tale began, we lived a charmed life. Good ale. Good song. Good company.

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Back then, being a thief was dull, Pick this lock. Disarm that trap, When things got hot, they'd tell me "Into the shadows, wimp." I should've lifted their gold and split long ago. But it's too late now.

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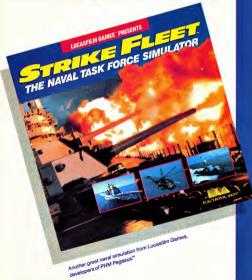
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AUGUST 20, 2087

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More Sniperdroids! All tracking me with them death glares. And them Uzis. They're weird trigger-twitchin' folks. I suspect it's them poisoning the water.

Or maybe it's those Leather Thugs. Heck, I

don't know anymore. I heard they have a bunch of civilians cut off east of Ranger Center, which is where I'm headed. Hope not. They want me dead. Like every other mutant this side of Vegas.

The worst part is, I'm getting to be as bad as they are. You wouldn't believe some of the ways I've learned to kill. I hang out in sewers, and my best friend is a MAC 17 submachine gun.

Gramps talked about life before the nuclear war, All I know is I don't want others living this way. Gotta rebuild this desert right. Gotta make it so you can sleep with your eyes closed.

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When the Bard's scared sober, trust a thief

. . like me.



hen the Bard's Tale began, we lived a charmed life. Good ale. Good song. Good company.

Mangar came along, but we cut him to pieces before he could blink. Soon the world got bigger, and its problems got bigger. We wandered the wilderness for months to find the pieces of that infernal Destiny Wand. But once we reforged it, Lagoth Zanta was history.

Back then, being a thief was dull. Pick this lock. Disarm that trap. When things got hot, they'd tell me "Into the shadows, wimp," I should've lifted their gold and split long ago. But it's too late now.

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